

# NU HOU DALA PAA

NEWS FROM THE HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION AND THE HONOLULU COIN CLUB

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AUGUST 22, 1984

## NO MAHALO AWARDS HERE

BY IRVING KAM

Now that this year's mini-show is but a memory, I thought we should take this opportunity to thank those Club members who helped to make the show a success. (By the way, while attendance was a bit down from last year, more dollars were spent on the floor as a result of lower prices and "stronger" collectors.) We'd like to thank them not only for helping at this show, but for also helping at our Statehood Coin Show held at St. Andrew's Cathedral in August. Unlike the H.S.N.A. Convention where a "worker's" medal is an incentive, these people came early and left late with no reward, and this says a lot about the quality of this small group. (Year after year it's the same Club members.) I really hate to single people out but I must say that Francis Loo, our Bourse Chairman, deserves a big mahalo for the outstanding way he has always handled the arrangements with the dealers. It is a must that we thank our President, Greg Hunt, and his work with security. Also, a sincere thank you to Gary Lau and his "gang" with all the important food and drinks; Wah Kui Young with the registration table; H.S.N.A.'s Marion Kendrick with the showcases; Elmer Hamano with the very successful auction; Charlie Matsuda with the unending planning and execution; and the remaining members with the detail work and muscle. I cannot honestly say that these coin shows wouldn't go on without these individuals, but it certainly makes it that much better to have such generous and giving people.

So on behalf of the Honolulu Coin Club and its Board of Directors, we thank this small band of Club members for always doing a fantastic job!!

Aloha! PAU.



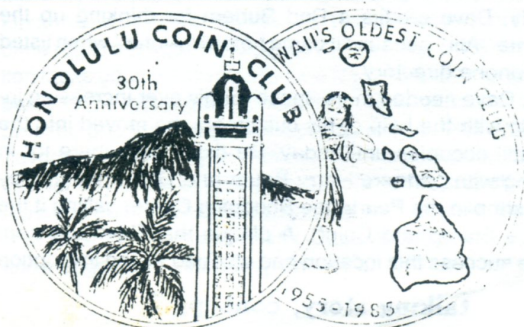
## KING LUNALILO 6TH MONARCH WOODEN TOKEN FOR HCC

King William Kanaina Lunalilo will be featured on the obverse of the sixth monarch series of the Honolulu Coin Club wooden tokens.

Lunalilo was the first Hawaiian King voted by the people, new in Hawaiian politics and government. He was greatly beloved by the Hawaiian people which he most heartily reciprocated. Upon his death in 1874, Lunalilo devised part of his will to erect an infirmary for the poor, aged and infirmed Hawaiians, known as the Lunalilo homes.

The reverse of the wooden token will feature the 95th Anniversary of Bernice P. Bishop Museum, built in 1889. The museum was built by Charles R. Bishop in memory to his wife. The Bishop Museum has one of the largest collections of natural and cultural history of the Pacific.

To order the wooden tokens, send 25¢ plus SASE to Honolulu Coin Club, P. O. Box 6063, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818.



## HCC 30th ANNIVERSARY MEDAL

The Honolulu Coin Club will be celebrating its 30th Anniversary in 1985. The Club was founded in May 1955 and is Hawaii's oldest coin club. In honor of its anniversary, a silver and bronze medal will be made for members. The obverse of the medal will feature the Aloha Tower and Diamond Head background, a symbol of Honolulu, the place where the Honolulu Coin Club was originated and held its club meetings. The reverse will feature a hula girl with the Hawaiian Islands to give an Aloha feeling and a welcome atmosphere. Only one hundred medals will be struck for members of the Club.





## A TOUCH OF HAWAIIANA

Waterhouse Photo Company Token

BY GARY LAU



On May 1, 1945, Alex Waterhouse, a member of a well-known kamaaina family, opened a camera store by the name of "Schofield Studio and Supply Co." It was located opposite Funston Gate at Schofield Barracks.

Due to the increasing demand for sophisticated photography services, Alex Waterhouse opened a new store that was more centrally located. The "Waterhouse Photo Co." was opened on December 21, 1946 and was located at 1345 Kapiolani Blvd. The new store, designed by John Kilpatrick, was the most modern and completely equipped photographic supply store in the Hawaiian Islands. The building was completely air-conditioned and the interior was designed to utilize daylight lighting rather than to rely solely on electricity. Mr. Waterhouse ran both stores until 1956, when D.G. Anderson took over the Waterhouse Photo Co., which you now may know as "Anderson's Camera and Hi-Fi".

A token that is now very hard to find was issued by the store some years ago, redeemable for merchandise.

TC 90: round/zinc alloy/36mm

Obverse: Waterhouse Photo Co., Inc.

Honolulu, Hawaii

Redeemable for \$1.00 in merchandise

Reverse: Aloha Hawaii

King Kamehameha

(Statue of King)



## Honolulu Coin Club Meetings



The Honolulu Coin Club meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.; Susannah Wesley Community Center with Club President, Gregory Hunt; presiding. Visitors and guests are always welcome at the meetings.



## talking story

NO. 2

BY IRVING KAM

Upon entering Hawaii's oldest coin shop, the "Alii Coin and Stamp", I am always overwhelmed by the cheerful greeting I receive from owner/operator Dave Martin and his equally cordial wife, Sylvia. Situated in downtown Kaimuki on Wai'alae Avenue, the Martins make sure their store's shelves are totally up to date with stamp and coin supplies and the showcases loaded with those shiny round metal discs.

After discussing Dave's recent purchases, I learned he got his start in what was to become his livelihood, at age 11. He started filling holes from the change his grandfather received from operating street cars in California. Later, this collection was temporarily put aside in an old Army trunk to pursue other interests, mainly girls and cars. After graduating from Santa Monica High School, he went to work in a local bank but continued paying his numismatic dues by working weekends in the "Wilshire Coin" for owner, Pauline Ney. On one occasion, Dave recalls painting the shop and being paid for his troubles in pennies, half a roll of 1960 "Philly" small dates worth about four bucks apiece in those days.

In 1961, the owner unfortunately fell ill and Dave, now 23 years old and married to Sylvia, bought his first coin shop and his career was on its way.

The year 1964 found Dave at the Hawaii State Numismatic Association's Convention and the thought of making Hawaii his home entered his mind. Returning to California after a pleasurable and extended stay here, he remembers telling Sylvia that "For two cents, I'd move to Hawaii", and in 1965 after selling the "Wilshire Coin", Dave and Sylvia Martin were full time Hawaii residents.

His main business was coin and stamp supplies and the military posts here kept him busy. He later split rent in Sandy Kam's small shop named "Mercury Sales" located on Wai'alae Avenue between 8th and 9th Avenues.

In 1966, Sandy decided to sell the business, so Dave opened the "original" Alii Coin and Stamp in the parking lot area behind Kaimuki Inn in the old First Hawaiian Bank building. He remembers affectionately calling this location the "Sauna" because it was so hot, but it proved to be very successful.

He was the first to introduce the bid board concept to Hawaii and the participants quickly numbered just under a thousand. Incidentally, Dave credits a Rod Burlem for thinking up the shop's name "Alii" because it came before "Aloha" when listed in the telephone directory.

In 1972, Dave needed more space for his ever increasing inventory. So with the help of his customers, he moved into the store he still occupies until today. He didn't stop there for in 1974, along with partners Harry Bauer and Gary Peters, they opened a shop in the Pearlridge Shopping Center calling it the "Pearlridge Stamp and Coin". A plaque that Dave has kept proves the success this location had attained as the inscription

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### **talking story cont. from pg. 2.**

reads, "In recognition of the greatest sales per square foot of all small stores in Pearlridge Shopping Center—1976".

After purchasing Harry Bauer's share, the two remaining partners sold this store and bought the Ala Moana location which had become available. Gary Peters sold his share to Dave later that year and now he had a second successful coin outlet called "Ala Moana Stamp and Coin Co., Ltd." This store in the shopping center of the same name caters to both tourist and the local collector and has had its share of celebrities. The Magnum crew, Isley Brothers, and Dick Cavett to name a few. Dave once challenged Jonathan Winters to make him laugh and a few moments later the comedian left with a good discount and Dave close to tears.

The Martins still attend a half dozen or so coin shows on the mainland, usually on the West Coast, to purchase new material for stock and want lists. On this particular visit to the Kaimuki store, I noticed an ANACS graded 1795 flowing hair dollar, 1798 dollar, B.U. dollar rolls, and more U.S. gold than usual. His safe produced a square gold coin called a Klippe from Liechtenstein and for Hawaiiana collectors, he has a Kaimuki Bakery token (TB-6) looking for a home.

Dave once purchased a complete 1876 proof set, from the cent to the twenty dollar gold, right over the counter in this store. He remembers that all of the coins were loose (no holders) rattling around in an envelope with the twenty dollar piece sporting a fresh scratch. To Dave's recollection, a proof set of this caliber has never been publicly offered for sale in the past fifty years.

Dave, who is past president of both the Honolulu Coin Club and the Hawaii State Numismatic Association, spends his leisure time "fooling around with his plants" a couple of hours a day and discovered this to be a therapeutic way of getting away from the coin business one hundred percent. He admits to being only a collector at heart now as the I.R.S. frowns on this conflict of interest and so would the store's customers.

As for the liquor decanters which one can't help but notice, Dave refers to them as more of an accumulation than a collection. At first he wanted to more or less specialize in the Hawaii issues but just like Sylvia's Kokeshi doll collection, customers and friends bring them in as gifts and their numbers keep growing. Besides the Japanese dolls, Sylvia also collects Netsukes. If you haven't already noticed, look on the wall above her desk for this is where she keeps those intricately carved ivory pieces. Her job is doing all the advertising, check writing, billing, etc., and she has undeniably contributed immensely to their success.

For those of you who are looking for good buys and/or "sleepers", Dave puts the Ike dollars at the top of the list as he feels that they are vastly undervalued at the present time. So are the Lincoln and Jefferson series. We both agree that the Roosevelt dime run is a bargain and certainly deserves consideration. Bullion looks good, particularly in the form of "junk" U.S. coins due partly to the much publicized I.R.S. ruling. Also, the current depressed precious metal prices offer an excellent opportunity to "average down" if you need to. This same price factor holds true for any of the obsolete silver coin series and all in all, Dave feels the coin market looks healthy and so does the future.

In closing, I'd like to thank Dave and Sylvia for their time, knowledge, and unebbing patience. And as I returned their

cheerful farewell and faced the bustling Waialae Avenue, I can't help thinking of how professional they are and yet still retaining the "local" flavor so prevalent in years past. Oh, well, only in Hawaii! Aloha! Pau!

# **HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION 21ST ANNUAL C O I N S H O W**



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*Mahalo!*

To the sponsors and dedicated writers of  
the Nu Hou Dala Paa newsletter

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HERE